

NEWS

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LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



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December 1, 2003

Work Shops and Conferences

***December 16-19, 2003** Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages AQ-AK Fairbanks, AK

***January 21-23, 2004** Developing a Tribal Air Program (TAP) Chandler, AZ

***January 27-30, 2004** Air Monitoring Data Management DATA MGMT Las Vegas, NV

***February 10-13, 2004** Introduction to Air Quality Management INTRO Flagstaff, AZ

***February 18-20, 2004** Ozone Monitoring OZONE Las Vegas, NV

***February 24-27, 2004** Environmental Education for Air Quality Professionals ENV ED Flagstaff, AZ

* Information about these workshops: Lydia Scheer at 928/523-6887 or Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu

June 17-20, 2004, 13th Annual Protecting Mother Earth Conference, Bear Butte, South Dakota. For information 877/436-2121 or www.ieneearth.org

EMS

To encourage the widespread use of Environmental Management Systems (EMSs), EPA has a new guidance to promote EMS use in compliance assurance and enforcement programs. An EMS is a continual cycle of planning, implementing, reviewing, and improving the processes and actions that an organization undertakes to meet its business and environmental goals.

Issued by EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, the Guidance on Use of EMSs in Settlements as Injunctive Relief and Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) will increase the use of EMSs in civil settlements. The guidance explains how EPA will employ EMSs in enforcement settlements to address the root causes of violations and the risks they pose to communities and ecosystems. EPA also issued a memorandum, explaining the Use of SEPs announcing a variety of new actions to encourage and expand the use of SEPs in enforcement settlements, including shortening and simplifying the SEP Policy and increasing community involvement in

SEPs. In addition, EPA is working with the U.S. Department of Justice to seek EMSs in appropriate criminal plea agreements in order to achieve beneficial outcomes for the environment. The EMS guidance is an extension of EPA's May 2002 Position Statement on EMSs, in which the agency committed to promote EMS use and emphasize the adoption of EMSs to achieve improved environmental performance and compliance pollution prevention through source reduction, and continual improvement.

The guidance is available at:

www.epa.gov/Compliance/resources/policies/incentives/ems/emssettlementguidance.pdf

Watershed Workshops

January 14 - Watershed Funding Workshop, Rogue Basin, OR. Location TBA.

January 15 - Watershed Funding Workshop, Umpqua Basin, OR. Location TBA.

Amy Williams, Environmental Finance Center 208/426-4990 or

<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc>

CD Watershed Training

The Watershed Academy's online training program, *Watershed Academy Web*, is now available on a free CD as well as on the internet at: www.epa.gov/watertrain.

The CD format allows users to save their limited web access time as well as move through the training modules more quickly than they could via slow web connection.

This training CD contains 44 modules on the primary elements of watershed management, and includes all the materials needed for the training certificate earned by over 500 graduates in 47 states and 14 countries.

Single copies are available by requesting "*Watershed Academy Web on CD*" publication number EPA 841-C-03-001 from ncepimal@one.net or by phone at 800/490-9198.

Ordering information is also available on the Watershed Academy Web page. For more information contact Doug Norton at 202/566-1212.

LID Practices

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently released "The Practice of Low Impact Development.(LID)" This new publication presents a land development process, Low Impact Development, that uses various land planning and design practices and technologies to conserve and protect natural resource systems and reduce infrastructure costs. For more

<http://www.huduser.org/publications/destech/lowimpactDevl.html>

School Siting and the Environment

A new study by the EPA, "Travel and Environmental Implications of School Siting," evaluates the relationship between school location, travel choices and the environment. The study provides important information about the effect of school location on how children get to school. It shows that school siting and design can affect choices of walking, biking, or driving. For more: <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth>

Transportation and Energy

The Department of Transportation Center for Climate Change and Environmental Forecasting has released two reports, "Greenhouse Gas Reduction Through State and Local Transportation Planning" and "Fuel Options for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Motor Vehicles," that deal with greenhouse gas reduction through transportation planning processes. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory has published "Consumer Views on Transportation and Energy," a report on how the American public views various transportation, energy, and environmental

issues. For more: [http://climate.](http://climate.volpe.dot.gov/papers.html)

[volpe.dot.gov/papers.html](http://climate.volpe.dot.gov/papers.html)

8-Hour Ozone Rule

EPA is reopening the comment period for Proposed Rule to Implement the 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard that was published on June 2, 2003 to solicit additional comment on alternative approaches for classifying ozone non-attainment areas. EPA is reconsidering how to classify areas and is giving the public the opportunity to comment on two

alternative strategies for classifying areas. Info: <http://>

www.epa.gov/naaqs/o3imp8hr

Waterborne Disease

The "physician On-Line Reference Guide to Recognizing Waterborne Disease and the Health Effects of Water Pollution" is now available at: www.waterhealthconnection.org Through a \$998,520 grant, the Water Protection Task Force in EPA's Office of Water is supporting the Web site to help healthcare providers recognize and manage waterborne disease and the health effects of water pollution resulting from both natural and intentional contamination of water. A new chapter-a repository of physician anti-terrorism preparedness resources, was recently added. The grant to Amot Ogden Medical Center also provides for continuing medical

education credits, as well as outreach and training, for medical practitioners on the Website. For more information: Patricia Minami at 202/564-4654.

Well Owners Hotline

Well owners with questions about wells or well water can call the new *Wellcare Hotline* operated by the Water systems Council, a national organization focused on well systems not regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The hotline is funded in part by a grant from EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. For years, EPA has operated the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, receiving as many as 300 calls a month related to private wells. EPA will now refer these calls to the *Wellcare Hotline*.

In addition to reaching the hotline by phone at 888/395-1033, anyone with questions about wells can access the hotline at: www.wellcarehotline.org or www.watersystemscouncil.org.

Water Training CD

The Montana Water Center (MWC) has created a fun and informative training CD-ROM for water system personnel and inspectors-in-training the “*Sanitary Survey Fundamentals Prep Course*.” The National Drinking Water clearinghouse (NDWC) is distributing this free CD.

Sanitary Sam leads field staff members, who are responsible for inspecting and evaluating small water systems for Safe Drinking Water Act compliance, through the course, Common terms of the industry are presented creatively through the “Sink Sam” and word search games.

Funded through MWC’s Technical Assistance Center grant and the EPA’s Drinking Water Academy, the CD uses 3-D fly-ins, animation, games, narration, and video without requiring a plug-in. Course basics take approximately two hours to complete, preparing inspectors-to-be for the fast-paced sanitary survey workshops.

Course sections cover organizing the sanitary survey, regulations, water sources, water supply pumps and pumping, storage facilities, treatment processes, distributions systems, cross-connections, monitoring and lab testing, and utility management.

To receive a free copy of the *Sanitary Survey Fundamentals Prep Course CD*. Call NDWC at 800/624-8301 and request item #DWCDTR10.

Awareness Sheets

The Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN) has developed three new fact sheets aimed at raising awareness about local government environmental liability as it relates to solid waste, wastewater, and air quality.

The solid waste fact sheet, *Solid Waste Management: Environmental Risks and Liabilities for Local Governments*, addresses solid waste collection, disposal and processing.

The wastewater fact sheet, *Wastewater Treatment: Sources of Potential Environmental Liability for Local Governments*, discusses National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit compliance issues, residual disposal, releases not covered by an NPDES permit, wet weather issues, hazardous and toxic materials, and security issues.

The air quality fact sheet, *Air Quality: What is the Local Government Responsibility?*, covers an overview of air quality regulations and specific local government regulations for waste-to-energy plants and landfills.

To request a free copy of the fact sheets, contact LGEAN at 877/865-4326 or via e-mail at: lgean@icma.org

Wastewater Security Guide

Protecting your Community’s Assets: A guide for Small Wastewater systems, a guide developed by the Nation Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCSC), is available for download at no charge from NETCSC’s Web site at: www.netc.wvu.edu

This easy-to-use guide features a workbook format that will help utility managers, operators, and local officials identify and reduce their system’s vulnerabilities to external threats such as natural disasters and

terrorism, as well as internal threats, such as disgruntled employee. The guide is arranged as a set of checklists and planning tools that address a variety of wastewater security threats, including natural disasters, vandalism, and acts of terrorism. The vulnerability assessment checklist has a simple design based on providing "yes" or "no" answers to a series of questions. Each question includes helpful information and advice for users to consider.

The guide is also available free in hard copy form while supplies last. Call NETCSC at 800/624-8301 and request item #TRBKMG03.

EPA Director

The Senate confirmed Gov. Michael O. Leavitt of Utah, on October 23, 2003 as President Bush's choice to lead the Environmental Protection

Agency. The confirmation of Mr. Leavitt, was approved by a vote of 88 to 8.

Mr. Leavitt will succeed Christie Whitman, the former New Jersey governor, who resigned in May.

Mr. Leavitt has selected the following to his staff: Rich McKeown will serve as senior counselor to EPA Administrator Leavitt. McKeown served as chief of staff for the former Utah governor from 1999 to 2003, and served as a commissioner of the Utah State Tax Commission from 1996 to 1999. Prior to his public service, he was a partner in a law firm in Salt Lake City. McKeown is an alumnus of Ohio University and the University of Utah School of Law.

Cynthia Bergman will serve as EPA press secretary in the Office of Public Affairs. In 2002 Bergman handled communications for the Maine Republican Party, focusing on U.S. Senator Susan Collins's (R-ME) re-election campaign. She previously worked at Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide in New York City and was press secretary for U.S. Senator Slade Gorton (R-WA) from 1997- 2000.

Leavitt is expected to announce additional staff appointments in the coming weeks.

Indian Country Telephones

Do you live on a federally-recognized Indian tribe's reservation, Pueblo, Colony, Indian Allotment, or Alaska Native region established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act? Do you take part in federal or state low income support programs?

If so, you may be eligible for telephone hook-up and basic monthly telephone service discounts under the Lifeline Assistance Link-up America programs. The Lifeline Assistance program enables participants to receive basic monthly telephone service for as little as one dollar a month. The Link-up America program provides qualified participants with a one-time initial hook-up discount.

Because American Indian and Alaska Native communities, on average, have the lowest reported telephone subscribership levels in the country, the FCC has adopted enhanced programs, as part of the Universal Service Fund, to promote telecommunications subscribership and infrastructure deployment on tribal lands.

The Lifeline and Link-Up programs are available to qualifying consumers in every state, territory, and commonwealth. Eligibility for participation in these programs varies by state. States that have their own state Lifeline program may have their own criteria. In states that rely solely on the Federal Low Income Program, the named subscriber must participate in one of the following programs: Medicaid, food stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), federal housing assistance (Section 8), or Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

For additional info: Alaska (in Anchorage) 907/276-6223, Idaho 800/432-0369, Oregon 800/848-4442, and Washington 800/562-6150.

Septic/Wetland Guides

① "*Septic Systems 1-2-3*," (Item #WWVTPE78), is a 12-minute video that is a good tool for educating homeowners and others who need to understand the basic components, purpose, function, and maintenance of the conventional septic system. In simple and easy-to-understand language, several wastewater professionals, including a plumber, a pumper, an excavator, and an inspector, explain what a septic system is, what its components are, and what it does. Special emphasis is placed on owner responsibility and the regular

maintenance of the septic system to prevent problems and protect the homeowner's investment as well as the environment and the public health. Tips are offered on what goes into the system with other do's and don'ts. This video will be useful to the local officials, general public, public health officials, and contractors/developers. This video is free. Shipping charges do apply.

② "*Guiding Principles for Constructed Treatment Wetlands: Providing for Water Quality and Wildlife Habitat*," (Item # WWBLMG23), is a user guide that promotes the development of environmentally beneficial constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment system by providing information on the legal, policy, and technical issues associated with these systems. It serves as a guide for those developing and managing constructed treatment wetlands. The guide provides information about the principles for planning, siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of municipal wastewater treatment constructed wetlands. Information on current EPA policies, permits, regulations, and resources is also included. The user guide also includes commonly asked questions with answers, and the appendices offer definitions, references, and other helpful information. This guide should be of interest to wastewater professionals who work with municipalities and are considering constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment. It will also be useful for engineers, researchers, state regulatory agencies, local officials, planners, managers, state officials, public health officials, operators, and contractors/developers. This guide is free. Shipping charges do apply.

To learn more about these products, visit New Products Page on the NSFC Web Site

[www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc](http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc_new_products.htm)

[new_products.htm](http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc_new_products.htm) To place your order, call 800/624-8301 or 304/ 293-4191. Or:

nsfc_orders@mail.nesc.wvu.edu

PEYA Suquamish

A group of students earned recognition from President George W. Bush and the EPA for turning a water runoff basin into an educational marshland. EPA Acting Administrator Marianne Horinko presented the students with the President's Environmental Youth Award in a ceremony at the EPA offices in Washington, D.C. The fourth and fifth grade students from Suquamish Elementary School in North Kitsap, known as the A Pond Kids, were recruited to serve as the Student Advisory Board to engage all the students of the school in transforming the fenced off gully into a wetland habitat. In the spring of 2000, a small group of Suquamish Elementary students, staff and volunteers, in partnership with the Suquamish Indian Tribe, began the planning to transform the water run-off area of the parking lot into a marshland. The Basket Marsh is now an environmental center that weaves together all the subjects studied in school - reading, writing, art, math, and science. It also serves as a common place to learn about the native culture of the area and respect for differences. Nature and native cultures influenced the created environment. The President's Environmental Youth Awards program -- celebrating 32 years of recognizing student excellence and achievement -- has two components: the regional certificate program and the national awards competition.

Regional certificates from the President of the United States are awarded by each of the ten EPA regions. One outstanding project from each region is presented with a Presidential plaque at an EPA sponsored award ceremony. Youth of any age - from kindergarten through high school - can enter as individuals, or as a group. Young people from around the country are invited annually to participate in the awards program which is aimed at encouraging individuals, school classes, summer camps, public interest groups, and youth organizations to promote environmental awareness and positive community involvement. For more information on the President's Environmental Youth Awards: <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/awards.html>

ALASKA

■ 6th annual Alaska Forum on the Environment held at the Anchorage Egan Convention Center, February 9-13, 2004. www.akforum.com

■ Resource Solutions Collaborative Leadership Series University of Alaska Anchorage.

Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Program: A Case Study in Negotiated Settlement December 9, 2003 “Panel Discussion King Salmon Room, Hilton Hotel, Anchorage” 6 p.m. Panel Moderator: Wanetta Ayers Panel Members: Wayne Stevens, Joe Sullivan, Senator Ben Stevens, Julie Bonney.

The Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) successfully administered the \$30 million Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Program, one of the largest programs of its kind in Alaska. This federal program compensated individuals, businesses, and communities that suffered economic losses due to federal actions to protect the Steller Sea Lion. It was the first federal mitigation program to be administered by an independent nonprofit. SWAMC designed a negotiated settlement process where those impacted were actively involved in determining levels of compensation. More than 90 percent of the funds were distributed within one year and administrative costs were held to less than one percent.

March 9, 2004 “Public Lecture by Mike Bireley, Anchorage U.S. Federal Building, Executive Dining Room” Noon to 1 p.m. Resource protection in America has evolved over the past 100 years and the new emerging paradigm attributes greater value to resource protection programs that promote the sustainability of natural resources and communities alike. Recognized as a leader in developing community oriented approaches to resource protection in Washington State, speaker Mike Bireley draws on his experience as a career natural resource law enforcement professional and a graduate Fellow of the Natural Resources Leadership Institute to illustrate the value of collaborative leadership in crafting win-win solutions for complex and contentious environmental conflicts.

OREGON

■ EPA Region 10 has proposed certain new standards for Oregon. These standards include: ● use designations

for critical life stages of certain salmon and trout in Oregon waters; ●temperature water quality criteria for the protection of salmonids in Oregon waters, except for the Columbia River; ●An intergravel dissolved oxygen water quality criterion to protect salmonid spawning; ●Methods to implement Oregon's existing antidegradation policy; ●a provision addressing the addition of heat from antropogenic sources to impaired waters; and ●a process for federal agencies responsible for federally owned or operated dams to request that EPA modify its federally-promulgated water quality standards for Oregon.

For more information about this proposal, please contact Mary Lou Soscia, EPA Region 10, 811 SW 6th Ave. Portland, OR 97204; phone 503/326-5873; soscia.marylou@epa.gov

■Umatilla Environmental Policy Analyst: The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation are seeking to fill a policy analyst position with the Umatilla Tribes' Environmental Sciences & Technology Program that focuses on protecting the Umatilla Tribes' treaty resources affected by toxic materials and pollutants, particularly associated with the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, Umatilla Chemical Depot and the Portland Harbor Superfund site. Interested parties may contact the Umatilla Personnel Department for tribal application materials at 541/ 276-3570. For additional information on the position please see the application at:

[http://www.dorsey.com/files/upload/NWILN Umatilla Tribes Special Sciences cy Analyst.pdf](http://www.dorsey.com/files/upload/NWILN%20Umatilla%20Tribes%20Special%20Sciences%20cy%20Analyst.pdf) or for general information on the Umatilla Tribes visit their age at: www.umatilla.nsn.us.



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